LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1.   (Currently Amended) A computer implemented method of retrieving documents from a database, comprising:

generating a query in a first language;

parsing said query into a plurality of terms;

translating said plurality of terms into a second language;

listing a plurality of permutations of said translated terms;

testing performing a vector space analysis of each of said permutations against each document of said database to generate a score indicating the relevance of each of said permutations to each of said documents; and

retrieving documents from said database based on said [[test]] score.

2.   (Original)   A method of retrieving documents from a database, as in claim 1, further comprising:

computing a score for each of said permutations of said translated terms against each document of said database having text in said second language wherein said score indicates a measure of relevance of each permutation to each document.

3.   (Original)   A method of retrieving documents from a database, as in claim 2, further comprising:

retrieving documents from said database based on said score.

4.   (Original)   A method of retrieving documents from a database, as in claim 2, further comprising:

sorting said scores of said permutations to identify the highest ranking permutation; and

retrieving a document associated with said identified highest ranking permutation.

5.   (Original)   A method of retrieving documents from a database, as in claim 4, further comprising:

retrieving a plurality of documents in an order corresponding to an order generated by said sorting of said permutations.

6.   (Currently Amended) An computer implemented apparatus for retrieving documents from a database, comprising:

a computer coupled to a storage unit and to a display unit, said storage unit stores a database in at least one file;

said computer generates a query in a first language;

said computer parses said query into a plurality of terms;

said computer translates said plurality of terms into a second language corresponding to at least one language of the documents stored in said database;

said computer generates a listing of a plurality of permutations of said translated terms;

said computer [[tests]] performs a vector space analysis of each of said permutations against each document of said database to generate a score indicating the relevance of each of said permutations to each of said documents; and

said computer retrieves documents from said database in said storage unit based on said [[test]] score.

7.   (Original)   An apparatus for retrieving documents from a database, as in claim 6, wherein:

said computer computes a score for each of said permutations of said translated terms against each document of said database having text in said second language wherein said score indicates a measure of relevance of each permutation to each document.

8.   (Original)   An apparatus for retrieving documents from a database, as in claim 7, wherein:

said computer retrieves documents from said database based on said score.

9.   (Original)   An apparatus for retrieving documents from a database, as in claim 7, wherein:

said computer sorts said scores of said permutations to identify the highest ranking permutation; and

said computer retrieves a document associated with said identified highest ranking permutation.

10.   (Original)   An apparatus for retrieving documents from a database, as in claim 9, wherein:

said computer retrieves a plurality of documents in an order corresponding to an order generated by said sorting of said permutations.